

Fynn - Lark News

DECEMBER 2024 - JANUARY 2025



COME AND WORSHIP

That's a very famous line from a very famous Carol. And if you add some candles and mulled wine, what more or better 'branding' is there? It is about family and 'atmosphere' such that you can almost hear the angels sing! All our Churches are pushing 'What's on' just as our supermarkets are 'competing' vigorously – whose TV advert is the best?

But the Christmas story we all know, and love isn't at all about selling anything but instead 'believing' – believing in a God who came to us, incarnate, and ironically, with nowhere to lay his head. It is also about God entering into our 'fallen world and Church' today, in order to 'raise

**Magazine for the Parishes of Great & Little
Bealings, Playford and Culpho**

us up' into becoming new 'Advent' people of hope and love, joy and peace. This is everything that the great prophets, like Isaiah, wanted to see for themselves but that time was 'not yet'. But it is different for us today. We inherit the Christmas story and treasure it. It is not something to dip in and out of whenever we choose but instead, something to ponder, inhabit and own as scattered Christian communities across our part of Suffolk and beyond.

We can join in with beautiful music and carols like the shepherds and sages before us; we can listen to the Old and New Testament narratives and respond to them in our daily living; we can taste and see the living God when, "before the altar bending", we receive Christ's gifts in bread and wine. We can light our own candles to help us pray for a needy world.

Again, this year, there will be no tourists in Bethlehem because the barbed wire fences prevent any kind of cohesion, unity, justice or peace. It is for these lasting gifts that Christ died. So, let's be more vigorous about a faith and belonging which can inspire and lead us from the crib to the cross without giving up. Let's 'be still' before the God who comes to us as child needing our love, support and time.

Every encouragement and blessing to you all.

Rev'd Nigel Prior.



***TO ALL READERS, CONTRIBUTORS
AND ADVERTISERS***

***SEASONS GREETINGS AND BEST
WISHES FOR 2025***

***We are very grateful to you all for your
invaluable and continued support which enables
us to deliver this magazine free to every
household in our 4 villages.***

Editorial Team

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NEWS & GENERAL INTEREST

HISTORY CORNER

– SECKFORD HALL



Seckford Hall must be one of the most eminent buildings in the county. It has undergone many changes over the centuries from the Lords of the Seckford Manor occupying the hall from as early as the 12th/13th centuries to the present day. Seckford Hall was rebuilt in the 1530s by Thomas Seckford in the instantly recognisable Tudor style, featuring intricate red brickwork, tall, elegant chimneys, open fires, carved wooden panelling and sturdy oak beams boasting the buildings rich heritage. Members of the Seckford family remained in residence until 1672.

A series of eminent owners followed, including members of the Moor family, two local MPs, George Tomline and Captain E.G. Pretyman. Thomas Seckford had himself been MP for Ipswich. The building then became more of a farmhouse, with an adjacent tythe barn. Sadly, those farm buildings became increasingly derelict, and the Hall was

scheduled for demolition. In 1940, Sir Ralph Harwood, former Financial Secretary to George V stepped in and saved it from that sorry fate. Shortly after, the Hall was requisitioned for use during World War 2, commandeered by the army. When the war was over, in early 1946, Sir Ralph resumed residence again converting it into a hotel.

In 1950, Harold and Lenna Bunn, moved from London, taking over ownership, with Sir Ralph still in residence until he passed



away. The Bunn family retained ownership of the increasingly successful hotel until the retirement of Michael and Christine in 2012. Michael had found himself taking over at the age of just 21 years. During that period, the Hotel entertained distinguished visitors, including Prime Ministers, Margaret Thatcher, and John Major. When Mr. Bunn retired, a series of commercial owners managed the hotel, somewhat missing the long and distinguished history of the building. Seckford Hall somehow



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seemed to have lost its place as an integral part of the local landscape.

The new owners and management company have taken that heritage to heart and have invested heavily into breathing life back into the building whilst retaining the distinctive and authentic personality and unique features of this truly historic building. The hotel offers guests a comfortable, modern stay, with every room unique and full of personality, but all unashamedly within the context of a proudly historic building. You can, for instance, spend your night asleep in a beautiful historic wooden four poster bed. In a similar spirit and recalling the way in which the Hall was once used, as the seat of the Lord of the Manor, Seckford Hall will sit again at the heart of this local community. It is engaging more with the local community and residents, rather than as a little island of first-class hospitality, somewhat remote from the surrounding countryside and local residents.

Seckford Hall Hotel is one of our finest local businesses and brings in people from far and wide. We wish it well.

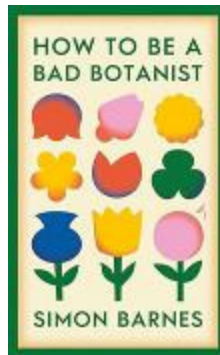
NATURE NOTES

IN PRAISE OF BEING A BAD BIRD-WATCHER or BOTANIST ETC.

One of my favourite writers over the years has been Simon Barnes. He used to contribute columns to *The Times* on Sport and Wildlife. He now lives on the edge of the Norfolk Broads. He has written a number of books expressing his love of nature and wildlife.

We were recently lucky enough to be able to attend an interview given by him to Norfolk Wildlife Trust members about the pleasure that can be gained from setting oneself the target of getting to know more about the myriad species which constitute the natural world, both flora and fauna. He encouraged those present at the talk to feel that being just an enthusiastic amateur birdwatcher or botanist was not a disadvantage, but that,

given the aids that modern technology can offer in the form of various apps, it can be a wonderful opportunity to expand one's knowledge, to get outside ourselves and our day-to-day concerns. How? By immersing ourselves in the intricacies of the natural world, and by getting to know it better. In his own words: any plant or bird which you cannot identify with a word, its label, remains a stranger to you. The challenge to recognise and to name different species is one to be met with relish. Any walk can be enriched by close observation of the natural world around us. Get to know it better. Label it. Try out the app which makes it possible to identify species of wildflowers or birds or birdsong.



A bad birdwatcher or bad botanist is simply a non-expert who would like to be an expert in identification but has never really got round to finding the right focus. It takes but a couple of steps to become better at it, given the widespread availability of aids. The better we come to know the natural world and its intricacies, the more likely we are to do what we can to appreciate it, to treasure it, and to preserve it for future generations.

So be proud to be a bad birdwatcher or botanist – it is a start – but do what you can to become better at it.

Norman Porter

A collage of various gardening tools including a rake, shovel, trowel, and pruners, along with green leaves and a small packet of seeds, all set against a white background.

Petal Gardening Services

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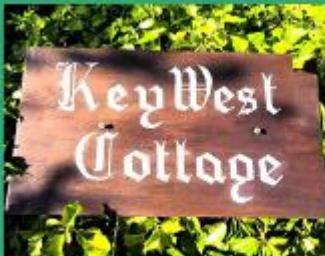
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CURRENTLY OPERATING IN
PLAYFORD

PLEASE RING
AMIE ON
07926 141859

A wooden board with three horizontal sections, each containing hand-painted text in a white cursive font.

Iced Coffees
Hot Chocolates
Milkshakes

A dark brown wooden sign with white hand-painted text in a decorative font, mounted on a wall with green foliage in the background.

Key West
Cottage

A white rectangular sign with the words "BANK HOUSE" in large, bold, black, hand-painted capital letters.

**BANK
HOUSE**

A person in a grey puffer jacket and pink top is standing in front of a wooden menu board. The board has a "welcome" sign at the top and several menu items listed below.

welcome

Ice Cream
Cakes

TRADITIONAL HAND PAINTED LETTERING FOR YOUR HOME OR BUSINESS
ANNA HART | WILDLIGHTSIGNS.CO.UK | 07432594501 | LITTLE BEALINGS

NEW FOOTPATH

When Little Bealings Parish Council received some CIL money, they surveyed the village to find out how this money should be spent, and this enabled an investment plan to be drawn up in accordance with ESC processes.

The 'top' response to the survey was Footpath 1A which includes a path through the churchyard and past the rear of the school. This well-used footpath had become unsafe with many trip hazards and so, having already provided £5000 to the Village Hall Trust for the roof and doors project, the Parish Council set about finding a contractor to complete the work required.

This work has now been completed. Church goers and walkers can now use the footpath without the worry of having an uneven surface to navigate and school users can now traverse safely between The Street and school rear gate.



The Cheeseman dogs, Daisy and Rosie, who live nearby, obviously approve, and happily use the new path.

The Suffolk Mobile Library Van will park at



Bealings Village Hall car park

The next visit will be:

Thursday 19 Dec 2:15 – 2:45 p.m.

Thereafter for the foreseeable future

every 4th week on Thursdays starting

Jan 16th 1:45 - 2:30 p.m.



Before



After

The Grand Opening
of the
BEALINGS VILLAGE HALL TRUST
ROOF & DOORS PROJECT
16:30 hrs, 13th December
REFRESHMENTS PROVIDED



EVERYONE WELCOME

followed by a

Pop Up Pub

ALL WELCOME

AND FINALLY

I cannot believe that it was in the autumn of 2022 that Margaret Wilson, the then Village Hall secretary, emailed me a photo of the worsening leaks in the Hall roof and asked what we could do. I got three local roofers to come out and give their appraisal - not good, the old roof was really beyond repair and any coating or sealant would not guarantee a watertight roof. So, after agreement of the other Hall trustees, I started applying for grants to replace the roof and the rotting wooden doors all at the same time.

Little did I realise how long it would eventually take, or the effort required by everyone involved. So far, it has taken 2,484 emails, 8 grant applications in varying formats and endless phone calls and texts.

In my naivety I thought I would just get three quotes, apply for grants, and pick the best value. But it soon became apparent that it involved a lot more than that to achieve replacing the roof and doors.

Planning permission was required which needed detailed drawings, structural engineers reports and elements of construction and materials to get approval.

The grant funders wanted comprehensive business plans and financial results for the past two years, budgets and cash flow projections with 5-year forecasts of future income along with detailed costings of the project and a detailed schedule of work. Well as always in our community, help was at hand, Jenny Shaw stepped up to volunteer to help with her wealth of experience and business acumen. She took my enthusiastic and passionate rambling pleas and honed them into precise, detailed, clear, and professionally presented, quality applications and the resulting approvals of support AND MONEY soon started to come in.

These grants coupled with CIL support from Little Bealings Parish Council, contributions from our District Councillors the many local resident donations and numerous fundraising events held at the Hall and on the field finally enabled us to reach our target goal in June of this year .

I would like to take this moment to thank the following people in no particular order:

EAST SUFFOLK COUNCIL (ESC) DISTRICT COUNCILLORS:

COLIN HEDGLEY, TONY FRYATT, AND DAN CLERY

ESC PLANNING DEPARTMENT AND BUILDING CONTROL SUFFOLK FIRE & RESCUE SERVICES

COMMUNITY ACTION SUFFOLK

EX MP DAN POULTER

LITTLE BEALINGS PARISH COUNCIL

GREAT BEALINGS PARISH COUNCIL

THE ANGELA COBBOLD HALL / ROPETH

MULLINS DOWSE ARCHITECTS

BERNARD SUNLEY FOUNDATION

GARFIELD WESTON FOUNDATION

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ESPECIALLY JENNY SHAW**

AND FINALLY, BUT MOST IMPORTANT OF ALL, TO MY WIFE ANNA

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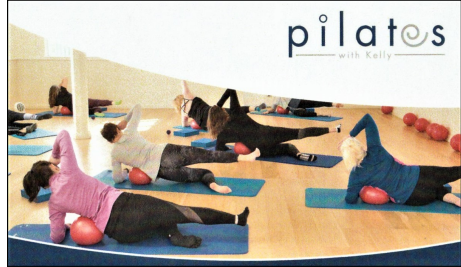
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BEALINGS VILLAGE HALL – DECEMBER 2024 & JANUARY 2025

MONDAY PILATES WITH DIDI 19:30 – 20:30 Helen: 07889 907615
DEC: 2nd, JAN: 6th, 13th, 20th, 27th

TUESDAY PILATES 09:30 - 10:30 Caroline Boggon 07850683196
DEC: 3rd, 10th, 17th, JAN: 7th, 14th, 21st, 28th

TUESDAY BALLROOM DANCING 18:00 – 20:00 Teresa Jay: 07929 310480
DEC: 3rd, 10th, 17th, JAN: 7th, 14th, 21st, 28th

WEDNESDAY DANCE CLASS 09:30 – 12:30 Debbie Watkins-Jones: 07711 161522
DEC: 4th, 11th, JAN: 8th, 15th, 22nd, 29th

WEDNESDAY CARPET BOWLS 14:00 – 16:00 Kathy Price: 01473 621419
DEC: 4th, 11th, JAN: 8th, 15th, 22nd, 29th

FRIDAY DANCE CLASS 09:30 - 12:15 Debbie Watkins-Jones: 07711 161522
DEC: 6th, 13th JAN: 10th, 17th, 24th, 31st

FRIDAY PILATES 12:30 - 15:15 Kelly Steventon: 07919 377855
DEC: 6th, 13th JAN: 10th, 17th, 24th, 31st

FRIDAY CHILDREN'S DANCE 15:30 - 18:30 Faye Stockdale 07881360191
DEC: 6th, 13th JAN: 10th, 17th, 24th, 31st

SATURDAY YOGA 10:00 - 11:15 Caroline Boggon 07850683196
DEC: 7th, 14th, 21st, 28th JAN: 4th, 11th, 18th, 25th

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5 a-side football: Various hourly rates Or subscribe for the year
Residents Bealings/Playford/Culpho £35/family
Non-local residents £70/family

SNOOKER ROOM

The snooker table has had new lighting installed. It is only £15.00 for up to 4 hours
and can be booked via: bookings.vh.bealings@btinternet.com

or mobile: 07769 195132

The Trustees of Bealings village Hall would like to wish everyone a peaceful and happy Christmas and look forward to a prosperous and healthy New Year for all.

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special people to join
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as carers

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Leah also offers adult classes on Tuesday evenings.



All classes are all back to normal and if you would like to join, just contact Leah for more details. on 01473 735880.

GREAT BEALINGS

RECTOR

Father Nigel Prior, St Mary's Rectory, 11 Church Street, Woodbridge. 01394 610424

PARISH COUNCIL CLERK

Mrs Dee Knights, Dunure, 39 Avocet Lane, Martlesham Heath, IP5 3SF Ips 624240

PC SECRETARY

Bridget Tanno, 2 Rosery Cottages, Lower Street, Great Bealings 0797025778

PARISH COUNCIL

Summarised notes of the parish council meeting held on 11th November 2024

REPORTS

County Councillor Elaine Bryce (EB) - a report has been circulated to Cllrs, and a full copy is attached to the minutes on the website. EB verbally reported that SCC have raised concerns about the Government's new housing targets and have stated that infrastructure must come first. SCC have launched a pothole prevention programme, and recent trials of equipment have proved successful. She announced that SCC will offer interest free loans to residents to help with warmer homes, and also that it is SCC's intention to provide extra funding for flood prevention work – 96% of drainage gullies have already been cleared.

District Councillor Colin Hedgley (CH)

A report has been circulated to Cllrs and a full copy is attached to the minutes on the website. CH verbally reported on the ESC new recycling scheme which will require each property to have five bins. He warned that the traffic generated by the proposed gravel pit at Westerfield will have a detrimental effect on surrounding villages, and the PC must comment on the full application when this is submitted. ESC's Community Help Hub has put together for residents an information pack on Pension Credit.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

DC/24/3733/FUL – The Homestead, Boot Street – Single storey side extension - After

the applicant had outlined details of the proposed extension, Cllrs resolved unanimously to support the application

DC/24/3105/FUL re Aberfeldy has been permitted by ESC

CONSULTATION ON HOLDING REMOTE MEETINGS - Cllrs were in favour of the ability to hold remote meetings. The Clerk will complete the survey on behalf of the PC.

HIGHWAYS AND FOOTPATHS

SAVID/SID –The SID at the junction of Grundisburgh Rd and Boot St is not working, this has been reported to SCC.

Grit Bin – further investigation has revealed that there is not a suitable location to site a grit bin at the bottom of Lower Street.

SCC Flooding and Drainage Forum - this was attended by a representative from the Bealings Community CIC Flood Group who has submitted a report. The PC noted the steps that the CIC are taking regarding the remodelling of the flood plain.

Other Highways matters – a resident has raised the issue of speeding along the residential part of Boot St. This has been raised before and it has been ascertained that there is not a suitable place in that area to install a SID. CH mentioned the Speedwatch programme which had to be discontinued due to lack of volunteers to operate it.

Sue Prentice reported that the wall outside Annesley Hall has been damaged again. A request was put in to EB two years ago for the road by the wall to be

whitelined – she will investigate this with SCC Highways.

ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

A depth gauge has been installed in the River Lark near the Lodge Road bridge.

FINANCE AND ADMIN

NJC Pay Award – Cllrs agreed to implement the recent national salary award for 2024/25 in respect of the Clerk's salary

Gov.uk Domain and new Website - A preview of the proposed new website was commented on favourably by Cllrs. The domain name has been registered and the Clerk and Cllrs will all have new.gov.uk email addresses. CH has applied for a grant of £250 from his Enabling Communities Budget towards the cost. It was agreed that the current Gmail addresses should be retained on record for at least a year. Cllrs agreed that the future updating and maintenance of the website should be outsourced to Suffolk Cloud. It is proposed to "go live" with the new details w.e.f 1st January.

Authorisation of payments – Seven payments were authorised for office expenses, salary and PAYE, hall hire and website expenses

Mobile Phone - The Clerk had made some preliminary enquiries about prospective costs of a suitable phone. It was debated whether this was the best way forward for emergency alerts, news etc. Rachel Lamb volunteered to do some research into this and investigate costs.

Draft Budget 2025/26 - The Clerk had circulated a draft budget which showed a shortfall of income over proposed expenditure of £600 if the precept remains the same, as well as the transfer to reserves. A final budget will be decided in January.

Provisional Precept Discussion - The Clerk has circulated the council tax base figures supplied by ESC, together with some calculations showing the effect of various increases in the precept. A final decision will be made at the January meeting.

The Bank Reconciliation was approved and signed

Trevor Harris asked about the ring-fenced amount outstanding for the Parish Planters Fund. It was agreed that this needs spending, Caroline Saunders volunteered to investigate some areas to spend the balance which will enhance the appearance of the village.

DATES OF MEETINGS IN 2025

Held in the Committee Room at 6.30pm unless otherwise stated

Monday 13th January

Monday 3rd March,

Wednesday 21st May

in Village Hall at 7.00 p.m. – Annual Parish and PC Meetings

Monday 14th July

Monday 1st September

Monday 10th November

The public are welcome to attend any Parish Council meeting and may speak for a maximum of 3 minutes on any item on the agenda in the Public Participation session. Full draft and approved minutes of the Parish Council are available on the Council's website. The agenda is published approx. a week in advance of a meeting.

Dee Knights – Clerk 01473 624240

Email: greatbealingspc@hotmail.co.uk

Website: www.greatbealings.co.uk

ST MARY'S

CHURCHWARDEN'S NOTES

The Church of England has been making the headlines for all the wrong reasons. Sadly, not for the first time. It is not the

only national institution to have its imperfections paraded before us. Institutional reputation management seems to be at the root of the problem. The Church of England is far from being the only organisation or institution bent on spinning the best possible image of itself. It happens in business. It happens in politics. It happens in educational establishments. It also happens where it is least acceptable; within the institution which for centuries has been the established and broadly accepted guardian of the nation's moral conscience: its national church.

For many of us living in small communities, away from the great centres of power and influence, this can seem remote from our daily lives and local churches. Only it is not. Perceptions are like ink blots which spread. A handful of bad apples can affect perceptions of the whole barrel. What happens at the top can affect perceptions at the fringes. It is hard enough to be seen to be standing up for the validity of religious beliefs in an increasingly secular and sceptical world, but it becomes even harder when the image of what one is proclaiming is tarnished by those who wield power. If the Church of England is being criticised as an institution, those who subscribe to its beliefs cannot avoid being caught up in the crossfire, collateral damage, partly to blame, part of a tarnished whole.

How do we respond? Not by denial of the problem, but by doing our best to carry on living daily lives which reflect what we believe. That is the best way of showing that what we believe is worth believing. All human institutions are fallible because human beings are fallible. Those ordinary folk leading ordinary decent lives, loving and helping their friends and neighbours, far outnumber the very small minority who abuse positions of power and influence. It is up to ordinary folk to ensure that the

image of the church is defined by how they, en masse, lead their daily lives, rather than allow one or two rogue figures to be the defining images of a long-established national institution.

PLEASE SEE BELOW FOR A STATEMENT ABOUT SAFEGUARDING IN THIS PARISH AND BENEFICE

This is not a subject to linger upon, nor one with which to finish.

To conclude on an uplifting note: Your churchwarden and all members of the PCC join in wishing our readers a very happy Christmas. May the troubles of our world, for a day or two at least, be eclipsed by the joys and togetherness at the heart of the Christmas festival. Happy Christmas everyone!

LOOKING BACK

The *Pride in Heritage* Event on November 3rd brought in some 60 people, with several others expressing regret at not being able to attend. See report below.

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY 10TH NOVEMBER

With our Rector fully occupied with the Woodbridge Commemoration, Churchwarden, Norman Porter, led the short ceremony of Remembrance by the village war memorial, together with Chairman of the Parish Council, Sue Prentice, who laid the wreath. The village was well represented, as tribute was paid to the men of this village who gave their lives in two world wars. We were also reminded on on-going conflicts, and of the fragility of peace.,

REDEVELOPMENT PLANS

There are no new developments to report. The wheels of change turn slowly! But the intentions remain solid and focused.

SAFEGUARDING

The resignation of the Archbishop of Canterbury in the aftermath of the John Smythe affair has highlighted the importance of Safeguarding in our

churches.

Sunday November 17th happened, very conveniently, to be Safeguarding Sunday. Our Benefice Safeguarding Officer, Jeremy Hawksley, gave a focused talk at St Mary's, Woodbridge about this all-too-topical subject, assuring the congregation that all appropriate measures are taken to ensure compliance with such fundamentally important safeguarding requirements, and to ensure that the appropriate "reporting" channels are clearly open.

The Great Bealings PCC has every confidence that Jeremy is doing an excellent job. Indeed, please be assured that every member of your PCC has undertaken the appropriate on-line Safeguarding training.

Even though we are a small country parish we take these issues very seriously. The procedures to be followed, should you have any concerns whatsoever, are clearly published, both by way of public notices and also on the Benefice website. In present circumstances, watchfulness rather than complacency has to be the order of the day.

LOOKING AHEAD

Well – of course – Christmas. The shops ensure that we do not forget it is now fast approaching. Amidst all the commercial hubbub it is easy to forget why we started to celebrate Christmas in the first place. Do try to escape from the commercial treadmill and remind yourself of the essence of Christmas, and join us, both at our Carol Service and at our early (9.00am) Christmas Day Communion Service, to be conducted by Rev Peter Wintgens. The new timing leaves so much extra time to get the Christmas Dinner sorted afterwards than does the usual mid-morning service, so, even though it is earlier than usual, there is an incentive to come along. We will do our

best to get the heating on in good time.

CHURCHYARD

..... slumbering, but the grass has kept growing, so we may have to do some over-wintering remedial work. The limes are shedding their leaves. Once started, the process is a rapid one, so we shall soon be able to see the church through the gaunt, leafless skeletal trees. Get through winter, and the snowdrops will emerge again.

SERVICES FOR DECEMBER/JANUARY

Sunday 1st December 9.30 a.m.
Holy Communion

Sunday 15th December 10.30 a.m.
Morning Prayer
John and Alison

Friday 20th December 6.00 p.m.
Carols by Candlelight

Wednesday 25th December
Christmas Day
Holy Communion. 9.00 a.m.

Sunday 5th January
Benefice Feast of Epiphany
Woodbridge 11.00 a.m.

Sunday 19th January 10.30 a.m.
Morning Prayer Tony.

Do check up on the St Mary's, Woodbridge, website for other possible services.

RECTOR'S "SURGERY."

We offer people the chance to invite our Rector into their homes to get to know him better, and vice versa. The regular day for this is Wednesday, either morning coffee or afternoon tea. If you would like to fix a future slot please contact churchwarden, Norman Porter nhp@rillcott.co.uk, who is i/c the rota, and

can offer possible future dates.

*Norman Porter, Churchwarden
nhp@rillcott.co.uk*

CHURCH FLOODLIGHTS

Exceptionally, since the next Magazine will not be out until February, we give advance notice of two occasions when the floodlights will be on, so you can look out for them and know what they are commemorating.

December is a big month for Haywood Smith celebrations. Leah and Julian celebrate their Anniversary on 3rd December and Leah celebrates her 59ish Birthday on the 10th December. Congratulations on both counts.

If you would like the lights to shine forth for personal celebrations/ commemorations please drop a note in to Norman Porter, Rill Cottage, Kiln Lane with payment, explaining why you would like the church floodlit, so that it can be recorded in the FLN, for posterity's benefit. If urgent, a holding email nhp@rillcott.co.uk_will do the trick, with payment to follow.

FRIENDS OF GREAT BEALINGS CHURCH (in partnership with Friends of St Mary's Church, Woodbridge)

PRIDE IN HERITAGE" EVENT – SUNDAY 3rd NOVEMBER

The occasion was designed to remind the people of Great Bealings of the rich heritage which their church represents, and to give them an opportunity to decide what its future should look like.

The evening was in two parts: Canon Roy Tricker, one of Suffolk's most eloquent church enthusiasts, gave a hugely entertaining, illustrated talk on the architecture and treasures of the church, reminding people of just how lucky and

privileged they were to have at the centre of their village such a beautiful building, set in such beautiful surroundings.

After a lengthy interval for refreshments



and mingled chat, the second half moved into the domain of the people involved with the church, over the centuries. Churchwarden, Norman Porter, with the help of illustrations, reminded those present of the many people who have lived in our village and who have helped to make both the village and its church what they are. The talk spanned the centuries, beginning with Thomas Seckford, taking in our illustrious Victorian forbears, and concluding with images and anecdotes relating to some of the most recently departed. Adding to the central narrative a roving microphone brought in contributions from many of those present, linking the images on screen to personal memories, historically revealing, poignant, moving.

Finally, there was a free raffle, with a good range of prizes, kindly donated, being distributed to lucky winners. Our grateful thanks to all who contributed those prizes – and, indeed, to all who supported this special occasion. Our special thanks to John Barber who very kindly set up and operated the projection equipment.

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VOLUNTEERS' CORNER

Are you a volunteer; would you like more information about volunteering; or are you part of an organisation looking for volunteers? If any of these apply to you please read on.



Many charities and other not for profit organisations rely very heavily on volunteers to provide their services. Volunteering can have many benefits. Studies have shown that it can help us in so many ways to lead more fulfilling and enjoyable lives.

For many people, however, there are real and perceived barriers which prevent them taking that first step. It is a fairly long list: lack of time; perceived lack of skills or experience; concerns about fitting in; worry about being too old or too young; pressure from partners or family; previous negative experiences; illness or disability; cost; lack of information about what might be possible; not enjoying the tasks they have been given; not feeling welcome; and lack of access to necessary equipment.

A long list and we may not be able to address all of them in this magazine, but it may be possible to put people in touch with others who can help. The purpose of this initiative is to help bring together people who volunteer, those who are unsure whether volunteering is for them, and organisations who are looking for help. We wish to alert people to some of the myriad opportunities that are available locally and in so doing, help people to find ways in which to overcome the challenges that might deter them from becoming a volunteer.

To start with, a couple of sources of information about volunteering opportunities which might be useful.

-*Community Action Suffolk* offers expert advice, support, and guidance to Suffolk's Voluntary, Community, Faith, and Social Enterprise (VCFSE) sector. They have an excellent and very accessible website to help people find out pretty much all they need to know about volunteering in Suffolk. The web site can be accessed by searching search Community Action Suffolk. Alternatively, phone 01473 345400.

-*Woodbridge Library* has a folder in the foyer which contains information about local organisations seeking help.

For future articles, we would love to hear from volunteers, both past and present, who are willing to share their experiences, both positive and negative. Contributions from people who have overcome some of the barriers mentioned above would be particularly valuable. We are considering setting up a local volunteers WhatsApp group for people to share information and experiences, if there is sufficient interest.

We shall also be providing a platform for individuals to highlight the work carried out by local charities and not for profit organisations with which they are involved.

If you would like to get in touch to share your experiences, join a Bealings Volunteers WhatsApp group or ask a question, please text or WhatsApp Sue Prentice on 07770 454802.

Volunteers Corner is sponsored on behalf of Great Bealings Parish Council

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PARISH COUNCIL CLERK

Wendy Cook

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07731 456133

PCC SECRETARY

Toni Cornish

lbpcsecretary@gmail.com

PARISH COUNCIL

Notes of matters considered at the Parish Council meeting held on 4 November 2024

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillors made declarations of interest in items on the Agenda in accordance with the Council's adopted LGA Code of Conduct and left the meeting as appropriate.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION

A Resident spoke on the following item DC/24/1252/FUL | Erection of 1no. self-build dwelling and garage, land opposite former Admirals Head Inn Sandy Lane Little Bealings Suffolk IP13 6LW

ESC COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP

Mr P Carr attended a meeting. He reported that there was a talk from Ben Richards about crime prevention in the area. That flood and emergency planning training is available and will be on going. Two Schools, Farlingaye and Kesgrave have received litter picks. £5000 of funding for Just42 has been agreed. £250 to promote SAVID had been agreed. There was also talk of road safety in schools and intergenerational work to be looked at in the area. The next meeting will be in three months where Mr P Carr will represent the council.

ESC COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP MEETING AND ROAD SAFETY FORUM

Mr M Garnham reported that the banner for road safety week will be displayed on the fence at Lux Farm. Road Safety Week runs from 17 until 24 November.

VILLAGE HALL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Ms Saagi reported that roof and doors project was now completed, and she

wished to express her thanks to everyone that helped with the clean-up. The Grand opening is on 13 December

SAVID

Mr M Garnham attended the SAVID zoom meeting. Playford now have their own SID so Little Bealings' SID will now become permanent. A resident, Andrew Innocent has offered to help Mr M Garnham with SID, he has now been added as a volunteer and that Mr M Garnham would provide him with a set of keys to enable him to access the SID machine.

CLERKS' FORUM

Miss W Cook attended the Clerk's forum on 3 October. There was a guest speaker from CCLA who talked about investments. The Parish Council does not hold enough funds to look at investment at this stage. There was also talk about the National Pay award and .gov.uk domains

SINKS PIT COMMUNITY LIAISON GROUP

A report had been circulated to councillors. Mr I Ransome outlined that improvements are happening, however not quick enough. ESC Environment Protection Agency are now concerned about gas and are awaiting a report due on the 12 December. A noise testing report received by ESC stated that there were still excessive noise and vibrations. The next meeting is the 5 December.

ESC EMERGENCY PLAN

The Suffolk Joint Emergency Planning Unit were invited to the PC meeting however to date the PC have not had a reply. They have been informed that the Village Hall is the nominated 'Rest Area' and that the contact there is Sue Pentice.

PLANNING

Applications

Ms Saagi and Mr M Garnham left the meeting in accordance with their declaration of interest

DC/24/3542/FUL | Construction of a two-storey rear extension, replacement roof to form first floor accommodation and alterations. Solgarden Playford Road Little Bealings Woodbridge Suffolk IP13 6ND

There was no objection to the development

Ms Saagi and Mr M Garnham returned to the meeting.

DC/24/3726/P3Q | Prior Notification - Change of Use of a Barn (Barn A) at Grove Farm in Little Bealings, from agricultural Barn to 1no. residential dwelling under Class Q of the GPDO. Grove Farm The Street Little Bealings Woodbridge Suffolk IP13 6LT

There was no objection to the development, however the PC are concerned about site access for this development.

DC/24/3727/P3Q | Prior Notification - (Change of Use of a Barn (Barn E) at Grove Farm in Little Bealings, from agricultural Barn to 1no. residential dwelling under Class Q of the GPDO. Grove Farm The Street Little Bealings Suffolk IP13 6LT

There was no objection to the development, however the PC are concerned about site access for this development.

DC/24/2759/FUL | Proposed extensions & alterations. (ground & first floor side extensions, first floor alterations & second floor (roof space proposal) Woodside Martlesham Road Little Bealings Woodbridge Suffolk IP13 6LX

The objection as previously documented still stood

DC/24/1800/CLE | Certificate of Lawful Use (Existing) - Converted barn to form residential dwelling Fox Barn Playford Road Little Bealings Woodbridge Suffolk IP13 6ND

There was no objection to the development

The following application have been approved:

DC/24/2376/FUL | The Weald Martlesham Road Little Bealings Woodbridge Suffolk IP13 6LX| Proposed front and rear single storey extension including internal modifications. Vehicular access moved.

The Following applications are Pending Consideration:

DC/24/1776/FUL | High Rigg The Street Little Bealings Woodbridge IP13 6LT – Revised Driveway turning area due to new amendments falling outside the red line of previously approved application DC/23/3657/VOC

DC/24/1800/CLE | Fox Barn Playford Road Little Bealings Woodbridge Suffolk IP13 6ND Certificate of Lawful Use (Existing) – Converted Barn to for residential dwelling

DC/22/5004/FUL | Retention and completion of construction of 1 No building and use of land for vehicle and plant hire operator(s) comprising officer, workshops, associated parking, drainage infrastructure etc to allow for the hire, storage, sale, maintenance and servicing of vehicles, paint, machinery and equipment following enforcement case ref: ENF/21/0552 in relation to previous consent DC/19/2666/FUL | Kesgrave Quarry Sinks Pit Main Road Kesgrave

DC/24/1252/FUL | Erection of 1no. self-build dwelling and garage, land opposite former Admirals Head Inn Sandy Lane Little Bealings Suffolk IP13 6LW

DC/24/2759/FUL | Proposed extensions & alterations. (ground & first floor side extensions, first floor alterations & second floor (roof space proposal) | Woodside Martlesham Road Little Bealings Woodbridge Suffolk IP13 6LX (Previous application DC/21/4162/FUL valid until 2 November 2024)

The following application has been appealed:

DC/23/2095/VOC: Variation of Condition No. 2 of DC/22/2984/FUL - Construction of one detached dwelling and garage - Change approved drawings to reflect amendments to design | Woodside Martlesham Road

An appeal has been made to the Secretary of State against the decision of East Suffolk Council to refuse planning permission for Variation of Condition No. 2 of DC/22/2984/FUL - Construction of

one detached dwelling and garage

Enforcements:

DC/21/4162/FUL | Woodside Martlesham Road

A site visit has been completed by ESC Enforcement regarding the potential use as a builder's yard. However, at this time there is insufficient evidence of an unauthorised use.

DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORTS

A report from District Councillor Hedgley had been circulated to Councillors before the meeting. Cllr Hedgley reported that there is information available about pension credits and that if anyone is struggling there is help and advice available. The Suffolk Loft Insulation scheme is on and that there is £200 available to help residents. New bin collection information is available and that there is a cream tea and dance at Snape Maltings. The information about pension credit help has been added to the PC website.

UPDATE ON ANGLIAN WATER SEWERAGE INSTALLATION

The majority of the Sewerage Installation work is now complete. There is still some work to be completed around the compound but all work should be finished by the end of November. Anglian Water are now starting to contact residents to see if they wish to be connected and the costs involved. The 20 and Slow signs have been repainted by Anglian Water.

NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

The results of the survey and event are now being collated. A draft plan will be submitted early next year, and consultation will commence after that. Mr I Ransome expressed his thanks to Ms Saagi, Mrs K Price, Mr P Carr, the four residents and Mr I Poole for their work on the Neighbourhood Plan.

WESTERFIELD QUARRY

Mr I Ransome attended a meeting, at the request of our County Councillor.

HIGHWAYS

SCC Feedback re Network Rail and Maintenance Reports

The white lines and roundels should be completed on 5 November.

Footpaths

Report was received and circulated to councillors. The Clerk will contact Suffolk County Council to see if the footpaths around Little Bealings could be cut earlier in the schedule next year before they become excessively overgrown.

Footpaths: Work For Footpath No1A

The footpath works to replace the footpath with 'like for like' tarmac will now commence on 6 November. The contactors have been made aware of the walking group, cafe and school that use the footpath and, also of the Remembrance Day services. Mr I Ransome met with the new Head Teacher at Little Bealings Primary school to inform her of the footpath works. No response had been received to a letter sent last term seeking a contact at SCC Education regarding funding towards the footpath. No contribution towards the works is available. Mr I Ransome also mentioned the overgrown bamboo that encroaches on to the footpath. He also took this opportunity to welcome the new Head to the village and to make her aware of the many activities that go on in the village. It is hoped that the Parish Council can build links with the school in the future

Claimed Public Footpath at Great Bealings & Little Bealings

The report from Suffolk County Council stated that there was no justification for the footpath and that they did not receive any forms from residents of Little Bealings expressing objections

GDPR & COUNCILLOR EMAIL ACCOUNTS

Mr I Ransome reminded councillors that their emails should remain secure and that they should only be used for council business and that they should be the only person that has access to them. He

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underlined the importance of this.

For added security the move to a .Gov.uk domain and emails was discussed following a report circulated to Councillors. A .Gov.uk will give the Parish Council added security in the future and the Clerk has control of an email account should they need to. There are added costs involved, however there is also a grant available to cover some of the initial set up costs.

It was **RESOLVED**: To move to .gov.uk domain and emails staying with the Parish Councils existing hosting provider and that the Clerk would start the process. The Clerk would also find out what domain names are available for the Parish Council to use.

PARISH CLERK – COMPLETION OF PROBATIONARY PERIOD

Following her six-month probationary period the PC have offered Miss W Cook a permanent position as Clerk.

FINANCE

Second Quarter Internal Control Review would be undertaken by Mr Cheeseman

Income had been received from Gt Bealings Parish Council (£10.16) for insurance of the shared village sign and ESC for the second half of the precept (£6,500), Groundwork PC (Neighbourhood plan grant) £9390.00, Barclays (Compensation) £230.00 and further CIL funding (£17,542.90). Expenditure for the Clerk's salary for November and December and PAYE, and payments for website hosting, External Audit, Footpath Warden Expenses, Clerks allowance and back pay, a bracket for SID and a donation to the Poppy Appeal were approved.

A draft budget had been published which proposed an increase to the precept to £14000 from £13000 in 2025/26. The PC will take another look at the budget to see if any improvements can be made and that the 2025/26 budget would be approved at the January Parish Council meeting.

DATES OF COUNCIL MEETINGS

The next meeting of the Council will be on Monday 4 December 2023 in the Angela Cobbold Hall.

It was resolved that The Council will meet on

6 January

3 March

Annual Parish Meeting, followed by Council meeting

12 May

Annual Parish Council Meeting

7 July

1 September

3 November 2025

5 January 2026

2 March 2026

Annual Parish Meeting followed by Council Meeting

Additional meetings, if required by business to be transacted, be held on

3 February 7 April

2 June 4 August

6 October 1 December 2025

2 February 2026

Please visit our website for further information, including reports, draft and approved minutes of Parish Council meetings:

<https://littlebealings.onesuffolk.net/parish-council/>

Wendy Cook – Clerk to the Council
07731 456133

littlebealingsparishcouncil@gmail.com

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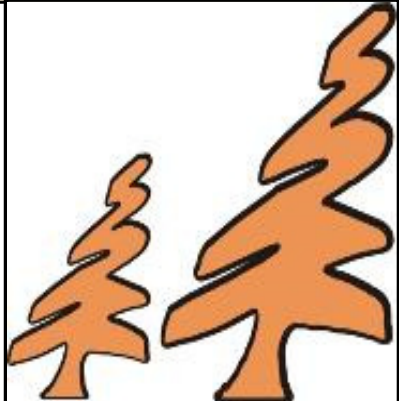
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ALL SAINTS

All Saints Little Bealings and St. Mary's Playford came together at a well-attended Remembrance Day service and whilst reading out the names of the fallen around the war memorial a shaft of sunlight lit up proceedings. A welcome sight after many grey days.



We thank all those responsible for decorating the church so wonderfully.

All Saints Cafe continues to open on a Wednesday (10.45am to 1.30pm) serving hot lunches and now has vouchers available to treat someone special to a cuppa and cake or a lunch, drink and cake. An ideal present.



As we come to this festive season let's think of how we can support not only our family but the community within which we

live. This could be providing a present for those not so fortunate as ourselves, giving some time to help at a village event or making a donation to a worthy cause.

Whatever you can do, we welcome you to one of our many services and events over the festive season.

Sunday 8th December 10.00 a.m.
Morning Prayer

Thursday 19th December 7.00 p.m.
Carol Service

Sunday 22nd December 10.00 a.m.
Family Communion Service

Tuesday 24th December 4.00 p.m.
Crib Service

Tuesday 24th December 11.00 p.m.
Christmas Eve
Midnight Communion Service

ACH NEWS

IMPROVEMENTS & UPGRADES

On Saturday 16th November the Hall drainage system became attached to the new mains sewerage system. Grateful thanks to everyone who made this invaluable improvement to the Hall's facilities possible. Our thanks to Robert Tanish for the repair and decoration of the entrance porch. The restoration of the glass over the main door makes the interior much lighter and more welcoming. A glass panel has been commissioned from local sign writer Anna Hart for the centrepiece. There is also a new movable ramp for easy access for wheelchairs etc.

COMMUNITY LUNCHES

The lunch on 5th. November had a seasonal theme. Tracy Herrington's flower



arrangements had gold and orange leaves and flowers reflecting the colours of the bonfire. The ribbons with purple hearts were a reminder that it was also Pancreatic Cancer awareness week and the colour chosen to remember the many animals who died on military service. Tracy also supplied an alternative to fireworks, party poppers, which added a 'bang' to the proceedings! A note of remembrance was also added with some chocolate peppermint matchsticks at the end of the meal. Remembering the late Mary Mitton, who regularly brought peppermint chocolates to share at Community Lunches and did much to support the Angela Cobbold Hall, particularly as Angela was known to her family.

THE ADVENT/ CHRISTMAS LUNCH will be on Tuesday 3rd. December 12.30 p.m.

Turkey, ham and all the trimmings, Sandra Banham's Christmas Pudding, Coffee/Tea, and Christmas Treats.

Gill Peck and the Hummingbirds will lead some seasonal songs, and all the profits will go to 'Sense,' the charity for the Deaf Blind.

COMMUNITY "LEFTOVERS" LUNCH on Tuesday 7th. January 12.30 p.m..

Thick Soup, Bread & Cheese, Baked Apples and Custard, Coffee/Tea

Bookings for lunches, 01473 620213
pandvcarr55@gmail.com

WARM WELCOMES EVENTS

No need to book, just drop in and enjoy the warmth and refreshments!

Every Monday

"Knit and Natter" 1.30-4.00 p.m.

Every Friday

"Social Evening" 7.00-10.00 p.m.

Sunday 15th. December

"Time for Tea" 3.00-5.00 p.m.

Friday 20th. December and Friday 31st January

"Coffee Morning" open to all.

Foot Clinic by appointment with Charlotte 07712448775

SPECIAL EVENTS

Saturday 7th. December

"Wreath Making" profits to All Saint's Church Little Bealings /
SOLD OUT

Wine Tasting 7.00 for 7.30 p.m.

Wine for Christmas from the Southern Hemisphere. Tickets £10 from

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Wednesday 18th. December

Gardening Club 7.30 p.m.

Christmas Table Decorations Workshop.

Mulled Wine and refreshments.

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WORD FROM THE STUDY

By the time this is published, we will be in the season of Advent. Advent comes from the Latin word *Adventus*, which means waiting or coming. Why is it when we are in a hurry, things always seem to take longer. My mum used to say, "A watched pot never boils"! It is also the beginning of the Church's year, as last Sunday we celebrated Christ the King, plus Stir Up Sunday, where we had people and children making Christmas puddings in Playford village hall. A great success! A big "thank you" to everyone for organising this.

Advent is a time when we prepare ourselves to celebrate the birth of our Lord. Christmastime is about God's time invading our time. How do you prepare? Shopping, family, get togethers parties secret Santa? We do not choose presents for our family and friends on a whim. So why do we always prepare for the coming of Christ on a whim? We think about what our friends would like for presents and then go and buy it for them; so, our spiritual preparation for the coming of our Lord is important. Goodness knows the world needs good news at the moment. Peace on earth and goodwill to all the world says it but often it is just words. My prayers for the coming year are that words will be put into action. Amongst the tinsel and TV adverts there will be people struggling either through financial reasons or just struggling with all the hustle and bustle for that reason there will be a 'blue' Christmas service of quiet and calm on Friday 20th December at All Saints Church, Kesgrave, at 6.30 p.m. for those who find Christmas a bit overwhelming. There will be, as usual, a great variety of services in all our churches. Please check our websites, or see the posters outside the Church. Either way, you will be welcome at any of our carol services or Midnight and Christmas morning.

Please do join us for our Christmas services either at All Saints Little Bealings on Thursday 19th December or St Mary's Playford on Sunday 22nd December, for our carol service. Whichever one you choose; you will be made most welcome.

May the peace of the Christ-child reign in your hearts and the joy of the gift of Christ be our guide.

May I take this opportunity to wish you all a very Happy and Peaceful Christmas and all the best for 2025.

Every blessing.

Reverend Gary Jones

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Ips 738468

PCC SECRETARY

Mrs. Eileen Stennett, Lux Farm, Playford Road, Playford

07787535398

eileen@luxfarm.co.uk

PARISH COUNCIL

These are condensed notes of the Playford Parish Council meeting held 6th November 2024. A full version of the minutes appears on the website: www.playford.org.uk

COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

County Cllr Elaine Bryce was unable to attend this meeting, but her Co. Council report will be appended to the full minutes on the website.

DISTRICT COUNCILLORS' REPORT

Dist. Cllr Colin Hedgley's report is appended to the full minutes on the website.

Colin further reported that the Planning team at East Suffolk is still very short staffed. There is controversy over plans to develop a gravel pit at Westerfield as excavations could be ongoing for 16 years with attendant problems of HGV traffic if approved. A new recycling scheme is to be introduced soon – details will be published later. A rural transport survey is taking place. A Tea-dance has been arranged at Snape Maltings on 11th Dec with discounted prices for residents of care homes and care-givers. ESC is offering help with pension credit issues and winter fuel issues – help is also available from ES Citizens Advice. Lofts insulation grants are now available again.

As always, Colin is happy to help constituents with any problems concerning council business.

PUBLIC FORUM

Reports were received of an unsteady signpost (which will be reported) and various incidents of damage possibly by farm vehicles in the area. Potholes issues were discussed at length.

ACTION POINT REVIEW

- Landowner's appeal against reinstating FP26 between Butts Road and Church Road is on 12th Nov 2024 at Endeavour House when witnesses' evidence will be heard.
- Improvements to drainage and traffic priorities work on C324 has been postponed indefinitely as Highways' workload has been severely disrupted by last year's Storm Babet devastation.
- Work on the many large potholes in Butts Road and Church Lane is not satisfactory and Co Cllr EB's help is still awaited to progress this with Highways.
- Work on rebuilding the Boules Piste was satisfactorily completed on 7th Sept 2024 - grateful thanks to Sam Webber and his team for their hard work.
- Work to be done by ES Services clearing the drainage ditch beside Butts Road in front of the village hall has still not been completed – Clerk will chase this up yet again.
- Loose netting on four bridges in the Alder Carr (FP20) still awaiting attention – this has been chased and we are awaiting a report.
- Smashed grit bin at southern end

of Butts Road will be replaced with funds from Co Cllr EB's budget in due course.

- FP1 & FP3 both in need of trimming – this is in hand, and we are awaiting reports. FP20 is flooded in parts but will be investigated on 20th Nov. Clerk to monitor progress on these FPs.

See Action log appended to the Minutes on the website for more details of these items.

FINANCE

Payments were authorised for renovation work on the boules piste, and to Westcotec Ltd for the new SIDs equipment. The clerk's September and October salary and Q2 tax to HMRC was agreed together with clerk's stationery expenses. Glen Thimblethorpe was reimbursed with the costs of new defibrillator pads for the equipment at the Village Hall and Community Action Suffolk (CAS) was paid for their domain name charge. Credits received since last meeting were the second instalment of the Precept £5500.00 and £50.00 for hire of the playing field in September. The budget for 2024-25 is on track and the bank reconciliation will be agreed by Steve Hicks at a later date. The NALC recommended salary increase for all town and parish clerks was approved. A quote for grass cutting received from NSK Landscapes was considered but rejected. A donation of £100.00 to charity was agreed for the team doing the work on the boules piste as they had not charged for their labour.

HIGHWAYS

Serious delay on drainage and traffic priority improvements on the C324 is detailed above, also update on potholes.

The new SID equipment for Playford has been delivered and is in use – SAVID's AGM will be held on 14th Nov and Road Safety week is from 17th – 24th November.

PLANNING ISSUES

DC/24/2618/FUL - Little Oaks, Butts Road. Amended plans for the location of the garden room were approved by the parish council.

EMERGENCY PLAN

A presentation will take place at the Village Hall to update residents on arrangements underway in the event of an Emergency situation in Playford parish. This will be on Weds 8th January 2025 commencing at 6pm. **We would urge as many residents as possible to attend this meeting.**

OTHER MATTERS

A gov.uk domain name for Playford PC's website is being discussed along with gov.uk email addresses for the parish council and for councillors. Quotes have been received and funding discussed.

Meeting dates for 2025 were agreed for the parish council and will be published on the website.

We were pleased to co-opt a new councillor, Lee Knighting onto the Parish Council. Two more vacancies still exist for parish councillors – please contact the Clerk or Chairman if you are interested.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Weds 8th January 2025 at 7pm (immediately after the presentation of Playford's Emergency Plan in the main hall at 6pm).

*Marian Hedgley – Clerk 01473 738468
e-mail: playfordpc@hotmail.co.uk
website: www.playford.org.uk*

HOW WOULD YOU

PREPARE

FOR AN EMERGENCY?



NOTICE FROM PLAYFORD PARISH COUNCIL

VILLAGE MEETING

WEDNESDAY 8th JANUARY 2025 6.00 p.m.

PLAYFORDVILLAGEHALL

Suffolk County Council has asked all villages and towns to put together an Emergency Plan that can be used in the event of disasters such as Storm Babet.

Community Emergency Planning is about people understanding local risks and knowing what resources they have available to help minimise the impact of an emergency on their community. Emergencies can take many forms, from house fires through to flooding or widespread power outages. Experience shows that those who are prepared cope better during an emergency.

Integral to the plan is the role of villagers as volunteers, providing everything from physical assistance, spare rooms, first aid, to vehicle and equipment use.

PLAYFORD'S EMERGENCY PLAN

There will be a meeting at **6pm on Wednesday 8th January at the Village Hall**, where the officers from the Joint Emergency Planning Unit of Suffolk County Council will be explaining how Playford can organise its volunteers and why the emergency plan is so important to have in place.

Please join us to find out more about how **you** can help!

Light refreshments will be available.

PLAYFORD W.I.

On December 3rd we're going on a 'Christmas Lights Trail' followed by festive treats and tunes round the Christmas tree. We'll be meeting at the village hall at 7.30 p.m. if you'd like to come along as a guest.

In 2024 we've been delighted to welcome visitors and new members to our small group. At our November AGM, our President Emma thanked the committee for their work and all members for their part in making our varied meetings friendly and fun. Our first meeting of 2025 is January 7th - why not try something new in the New Year and come along!

We're grateful to have been invited have a WI welcome stall at the Wreath Making fundraising event for Playford Church on 6th December so hope to see many of you there!

Wishing all our members, FLN readers and editorial team a Happy Christmas and New Year.

playfordwi@gmail.com

ST. MARY'S

In October Playford Church underwent a quinquennial inspection. I'll let you work out how often they happen but there's a clue in the name. The good news is that there is nothing that requires immediate attention however there were 16 issues raised we will have to address over the next two years to prevent deterioration of the fabric of the building. It's time for some fundraising!

At 7.00 p.m. on 6th December at Playford Village Hall we have our wreath making workshop taking place. Make a wreath,

swig a glass of Prosecco, have some great food, buy a raffle ticket (of course there's a raffle, it's a church event, but there are some good prizes) and try the wine and cocktails we'll have for sale. Contact

helenclarksonfieldsend@gmail.com if you would like to sign up.

Back at the church itself we have the following Christmas-related services coming up. There's a crib service on 15th December at 10.00 a.m. On 22nd December we have our candlelit carol service at 6.00 p.m. and history suggests it is the evening of the year when we hear some of our most courageous singing. People must warm up at home beforehand. Finally, Playford will be hosting the Christmas Day Communion at 10.00 a.m.

As we do every year, we are aiming to light up the church every night of the Christmas period. If you would like to sponsor the lights for £10 for a night, please get in touch.

Apart from our Christmas services we will have our usual service on 1st December at 10.00 a.m. and on 8th December at 10:30 a.m. we are hosting a baptism at Playford Village Hall. All are welcome.

Jonathan Fieldsend

07713164349

Churchwarden – Playford Church

playfordchurch@gmail.com

Celebrate Christmas/New Year at Playford Village Hall

Friday 27 December 2024

Stretch your legs after Christmas with a village walk followed by free drinks and refreshments at the village hall with friends and neighbours.

Meet at 11.00 at the hall to join the walk which will include a Twixmas Treasure Trail (with prizes) for family and friends and an opportunity to visit Playford Mere.

The hall will be open from 11.00 for those who do not wish to join the walk.

Children Welcome



Organised by the Village Hall Committee

Receive a free thermal survey of your home

Community Thermal Imaging Project
Funded by the Suffolk Climate Change Partnership



The CLIMATE ACTION TEAM is offering free thermal images of homes in the Playford area from **31st January to 10th February 2025**.

Volunteers from your community will visit your property with a thermal imaging camera and plenty of helpful information and guidance to help you with next steps.

In just a 20-minute visit, you could learn where heat is escaping from your home and how to insulate it better. This could save you money on your energy bills, keep your home warm and

lower your carbon footprint. The volunteers will not need to come inside your home and the thermal imaging camera will not be able to penetrate your windows.

To book your visit, please email Glen Thimblethorpe: thimblethorpe@gmail.com (or phone 07754 887070 if you are unable to use email).

The Thermal Imaging Project is funded by the Suffolk Climate Change Partnership which brings all Suffolk councils together to better equip Suffolk for our changing climate. To find out more about their mission go to greensuffolk.org

This project is endorsed by Playford Parish Council.

Children's Christmas Party & Carols at Playford

SUNDAY 22ND DECEMBER
10:30AM TO 12:30PM
PLAYFORD VILLAGE HALL



Crafts... Games... Party Food... FUN!

Parents can stay for a coffee or take the opportunity to do some Christmas shopping while the kids have some fun (up to age 11). Under 5's must be accompanied.

At 12:00, adults are invited to join in the Christmas carols and Nativity story for a festive start to the Christmas hols.

for more info and to book a place please scan the QR code or go to Lightwave.community



BINKY AND CO

Binky liked Christmas. He looked forward to it like a small child. He dreamt of good food. Lots of presents and the Christmas tree.

The only thing he didn't like about it was the awful decision of what to buy Indigo. Every year she said she didn't want anything. On his first year of marriage, he asked Indigo what she wanted, and she replied. "Nothing would make me happier than a diamond necklace" So, he bought her nothing. There was hell to pay. The marriage nearly ended before Boxing Day.

He had once bought her a diamond eternity ring which she promptly lost. But that of course was Binky's fault as he had "bought one three sizes too big." (In fact, she had taken it off when preparing some potatoes and thrown it out with the peelings, but she never told Binky.)

He purchased a very expensive pack of two Christmas crackers that each had a super little present inside, Indigo's was a gold-plated ladies watch which was dismissed out of hand as she already had a second-hand chunky Timex weighing just under 1lb which she preferred. So that was a waste of money. Last year he presented her with a fifty-pound M&S ladies department voucher which she immediately discarded as M&S don't stock XXXXL 'S' cup bras.

Binky was at a loss. He had been listening to her very carefully in order to pick up some clues but never quite listened at the right time, which Indigo said was par for the course anyway. Binky thought he would consult Indigo's best friend, Joyce Bellpull who told him to ring up or Google that new website "Useless Husbands" they would surely help, after all it was made for people such as Binky.

He went on to "Useless Husbands." He went through the pages of "Intimate Gifts for Her" and found nothing of any use. He filled in the Help and Queries form as best he could with Indigo's details and the website's special offers box ticked. Meanwhile it looked as if he would need to make a special trip into town and purchase something very expensive.

The day he went to town was cold and wet. There was a Santa on every street corner and in every shop. Binky began to get the "Bah Humbug" syndrome, he was going off Christmas very fast. A little boy of about ten ran up to him. "What do you get if you cross a duck & Santa?" he asked. "A Christmas quacker!" he shouted and ran off. Binky was furious. This town has never been the same since they erected that statue in memory of that hooligan that knocked down the statue of Disraeli. Whilst he was in town a parcel arrived at home with Indigo's name on it from a firm called "Useless Husbands" containing a selection of the skimpiest underwear and nightclothes you could never imagine. (Well, I know some of you could, but your names are safe with me)

Anyway, he finally found a present that he knew Indigo would love because he had often heard her grumbling that her existing one wasn't any good anymore. He went home only to be greeted by a furious Indigo holding up a pair of the skimpiest knickers in the world. "What is your explanation you idiot?" asked Indigo with her most indignant voice. "Oh! I must have ticked the wrong box" whimpered Binky. "But don't worry, I've got you a super present here." said Binky in a nervous but pleased with himself voice. Indigo opened the parcel and then the box. She withdrew slowly the latest, super-duper, state of the art, designed by NASA, tested on the moon and back, non-stick frying pan. Binky smiled lovingly. So did Indigo. For about 3 milliseconds. Binky's world then came crashing down..... Around his head.

PLAYFORD POP-UP YOUTH GROUP!

FRIDAY
13TH DEC
3:45PM TO 5PM
PLAYFORD
VILLAGE HALL
ALL AGED 10-16
ARE WELCOME!

Contact Ben Wale
for more information, or if you'd like
to sponsor the group at £20 a month
as an individual or business.
ben.wale@cofesuffolk.org
07769183638

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PARISH COUNCIL CLERK

John Ager, 8 Postmill Close, Grundisburgh IP13 6UU

01473 735541

CHURCHWARDEN

Richard Garnham, Cherry Box Cottage, Meeting Lane, Grundisburgh IP13 6TT

01473 738139

CULPHO CHURCH AND COMMUNITY NEWS

CULPHO MUSIC

The two concerts performed by the London Chamber Soloists comprising Anna Noakes, Bob Smisson and Gabriella Dall'olio accompanied by artist Rose Ferraby brought a completely new concept to Culpho Music. The audiences were transfixed by the musicians' talent together with how the artist expressed the messages from the music into a variety of works using different mediums

Culpho Music will have a programme of events throughout 2025, details of which will be circulated once final arrangements have been made

On Sunday December 1st at 3.00 p.m. in St Botolph's Church we will be celebrating an Advent Evensong service accompanied by Ipswich Coral Society. This is a unique event and comprises a variety of carols, hymns and readings to celebrate the start of Advent, refreshments will be served at the end of the service.

The Christmas Carol Service will be held on December 22nd at 3.00 p.m. when we will be joined by choristers and musicians.

*Richard Garnham
Churchwarden*

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NEW TO THE VILLAGE?

Great Dealings: For a Welcome Leaflet please contact

Norman Porter on 735565 or nhp@rillcott.co.uk

Little Dealings:

Please see the parish website for information: www.littledealings.onesuffolk.net

Playford:

For Information please see the parish website: www.playford.org.uk

GOOD NEIGHBOUR SCHEME - Services for those with Mobility Problems

This local Scheme is now up and running. If you need help with things like:

- lifts especially to doctors' surgeries and hospital appointments
 - getting prescriptions
 - minor domestic repairs, such as checking smoke alarms and changing light bulbs
 - short term help with pets
- phone 01473 345400 and leave a message – someone will call you back.

For those who need regular transport, the Coastal Accessible Transport Service is a charity which provides lifts. Tel 01728 830516 for details.

BEALINGS AND PLAYFORD NEWSGROUP

To be added to the growing number of residents who receive regular emails about local news, events and services send your email address to:

dealingsplayfordnews@googlemail.com

BUSES

Timetables for the 70 and 70A services serving the local area are available at:

<https://www.suffolkonboard.com>

LOCAL CRIME INFORMATION

The Police Direct scheme sends phone emails with the latest information on local crime, warnings about bogus callers, crime reduction advice and updates from the Safer Neighbourhood Team. Sign up at

<https://www.suffolk.police.uk/contact-us/police-connect-sign>

Report Anti-Social Behaviour call 111 (Police) or 03330162000 (ESC)

NEED TO REPORT A PROBLEM?

Road repairs and Maintenance – potholes, overhanging vegetation, signs, flooding, verge cutting etc – problems should be reported on line at:

<https://highwaysreporting.suffolk.gov.uk/> or by email to:

customer.services@suffolk.gov.uk. or phoning 0345 606 6171 In an emergency contact the police.

Public Rights of Way Footpath **problems** can be reported to Suffolk County Council

www.suffolk.gov.uk

Fly Tipping and Litter: Contact Suffolk Coastal Services on 01394 444000 or email www.eastsuffolk.gov.uk

Dec 2024

ACTIVITIES/SERVICES

BEALINGS

VH: Village Hall AS: All Saints ACH: Angela Cobbold Hall

BALLROOM DANCING	VH	Tue	7.30 p.m.	<i>Teresa Jay 07929310480</i>
CARPET BOWLS	VH	Wed	2.00 p.m.	<i>Kathy Price 621419</i>
DANCE CLASS	VH	Wed	9.30 a.m. .	<i>Debbie Watkins-Jones 0711161522</i>
	VH	Fri	9.30 a.m. .	
FYNN VALLEY WALKS	AS	Wed	10.30 a.m.	Walks leave from the church
JOHN BELSTEAD SPORTS COURT				
Subscribers https://v2.hallmaster.co.uk/Diary/ViewWeeklyDiary/6622				
Non-Subscribers http://bealingsvillagehall.org.uk or Volunteer Administrator:07925 181390				
KNIT & NATTER	ACH	Mon	1.30 p.m.4.00 p.m.	<i>Info Contact 01473 623133</i>
LIBRARY	ACH	Thu	2.15 - 2.45(every 4th Thu)	<i>07809594685</i>
PILATES with DIDI	VH	Mon	7.30 p.m.	<i>Helen 07889 907615</i>
PILATES	VH	Tue	9.30 a.m.	<i>Caroline Boggon 07850683196</i>
PILATES	VH	Fri	12.30 p.m.	<i>Kelly Steventon 07919377855</i>
READING ROOM	ACH	Sat	10.30-12.30or by arrangement	<i>Info 01473 620213</i> Books for all ages, jigsaw puzzles, DVDs etc to borrow. Drop off for FIND donations.
SNOOKER	VH	Any day	<4 hours	<i>Margaret Wilson 07769195132</i>
SOCIAL EVENING	ACH	Fri	7.00 p.m.	<i>Info 01473 735153</i> Licensed bar, pub games etc. and other events
VILLAGE HALL BOOKING				<i>Margaret Wilson 07769195132</i> : <i>bookings.vh.bealings@btinternet.com</i>
YOGA	VH	Sat	9.30 a.m.	<i>Caroline Boggon 07850683196</i>

PLAYFORD

PH: Parish Hall

ART CLUB	PH	Thu	10.00 a.m.	<i>Mary Spillett 01394 385295</i>
LIBRARY		Thu	1.50 – 2.05 (every 4 weeks)	<i>07809594685</i> mobile library at phone box
MILK		Tue, Thu, Sat		<i>Dairy Crest 747272</i>
NEWSPAPERS				<i>DC Patrick Newsagents 01986 874305</i>
PARISH HALL BOOKING		Book on line:		<i>bookings.playfordvillagehall@gmail.com</i> or contact via voicemail 01473 487215
PILATES	PH	Wed	7.30 p.m. - 8.15 p.m.	<i>Julie Gorevan on 07702 883245</i>
WI	PH	Tue	7.30 p.m.(1st in month)	<i>Sue Bruce 738265</i>

Dec 2024



FEBRUARY 2025 NEWS

Contributions for the February 2025 News to be submitted by:

5.00 p.m. Tuesday, 19th January

The news will be ready for distribution by **Saturday, 30th January.**

DISCLAIMER

The views expressed in this magazine are those of the contributors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Editorial Team.

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Fynn - Lark News

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